

From: [Sue Ruston](#)
To: [Plan Hearings](#)
Cc: samsb@xtra.co.nz; [Platinumfarming](#); [Merv Todd](#); [David Winter](#); [Mark Christensen](#); [Grant Edmundson](#)
Subject: PC7 - Evidence for Next Generation Farmers Trust
Date: Friday, 17 July 2020 5:48:12 pm
Attachments: [PC7 - NGFT - Evidence of Dan Encell.pdf](#)
[PC7 - NGFT - Evidence of J Austin.pdf](#)
[PC7 - NGFT - Evidence of R Nortie.pdf](#)
[PC7 - NGFT - Expert Evidence Planning Susan Ruston.pdf](#)
[PC7 - NGFT - Evidence of D and R Clark.pdf](#)
[PC7 - NGFT - Evidence of Victoria Travnor.pdf](#)
[PC7 - NGFT - Evidence of Sam Spencer-Bower for NGFT.pdf](#)

Good afternoon

I have been instructed by the Next Generation Farmers Trust to lodge, on their behalf, the attached evidence in accordance with Minute 1 to Proposed Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan.

Your sincerely

Sue Ruston

IN THE MATTER OF

The Resource Management Act
1991

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

Proposed Plan Change 7 to the
Canterbury Land and Water
Regional Plan

STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF VICTORIA TRAYNER

ARATIKA TRUST

17 JULY 2020

1. INTRODUCTION AND OUTCOME REQUESTED

- 1.1. My full name is Victoria Jean Trayner.
- 1.2. Aratika Trust made a personal submission number 199.
- 1.3. I am the eldest daughter of an established farming family with dairy, pig and arable farms, and a beef stud. I am a descendant of Waitaha and Ngati Mamoe, both represented by Ngai Tahu iwi. The family farms across seven properties a total of 1691ha. I am Share-milking on one of the Timperley Family's farms called "Hillcrest", which is 219ha, milking 650 cows, and is fully self-contained. The farm is located at Carleton road and Oxford road in Oxford and I lecture in agribusiness and production management for the PrimaryITO. I Hold a Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Agriculture, Diploma in Teaching and Learning, Certificate in Health and Wellbeing and a MAHND. I am a Director for Platinum Farming Ltd and Motu Stud Ltd which operates within the Timperley family Aratika Trust. I am an appointed shareholder Director of the Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd and a Trustee for The Waimakariri Next Generation Farmers Trust. I am the 5th Generation of our family to be caretakers of the land with my husband and three daughters, who will be the sixth. I have two sisters and with their husbands and children are also farming in the district for the family in different roles. The Timperley family Aratika Trust have been farming in the district since 1957 and have close family ties to the community in which we operate. There are approximately 25 families which the farms support and provide an income to from farming operations. Some of the staff have been working for the family for over forty years, own their own homes and land in the Waimakariri district.
- 1.4. My property is located in the Blue Nitrate Priority area and the other 7 properties are located across all five nitrate priority areas.
- 1.5. I am a Trustee of the Next Generation Farmers Trust and the Timperley family are members of the Next Generation Farmers Trust. I support the changes to PC 7 sought by the Trust. I also support the objectives and work of the Trust generally because all future generations deserve the right to have a choice to

have a career in agriculture and be caretakers on the land as their Whakapapa did.

- 1.1. My statement of evidence is about the likely effects on my farming operation and on my family if the Waimakariri Sub-region components of PC 7 is confirmed without change. I am committed to running my farm in an environmentally responsible manner, and I understand the need to change practices over time to further reduce nutrient losses. However, I am concerned that PC 7 as notified will result in the need for changes which put my farming operation at risk of being financially unsustainable. I want to remain a profitable operation so I can afford to make the changes which are necessary to achieve the outcomes sought.
- 1.2. I wish to be part of the solution to water quality issues in the Waimakariri and I believe that working in partnership with the Next Generation Farmers Trust, Environment Canterbury, and others, will be the best way to achieve the environmental gains sought while continuing to run a profitable farm.
- 1.3. The two main changes to the Waimakariri Sub-region components of PC 7 as notified that I seek are:
 - a. Removing the percentage reductions from 2050 and beyond in Table 8-9; and
 - b. Deleting the Nitrate Priority Sub-areas.

2. MY EXISTING FARMING OPERATION

- 2.1. One of the properties is operating at an A FEP Audit grade and the other Six properties are operating at a B FEP Audit grade and are making significant investments in infrastructure to reach an A grade FEP within a ten-year plan given the farms current financial positions. We pride our farming practice on meeting high animal welfare standards and run all farms with a low stocking rate and creating a supportive working environment for all staff to grow and develop their own knowledge and skill level. Over the past two years we have made significant investments to make environmental improvements on farm.

- 2.2. The dairy farms have upgraded their irrigation to centre pivots, have installed moisture metre probes and Regen to help make better day to day decisions when irrigating.
- 2.3. The farm has invested in Trackmap a GPS proof of placement for effluent and fertiliser and on k-line irrigation.
- 2.4. We have spent \$9,000 on riparian planting around water ways in the past twelve months and will continue to maintain.
- 2.5. extended education to our managers and share-milkers and involve them in the day to day environmental decisions that can benefit the farms environmental footprint. For example, planting catchment crops, re-grassing nitrate specialised species, timing of fertiliser application and so on.
- 2.6. The Timperley family is very passionate farmers and the next generation who are in the early stages of the succession plan are even more driven to carry on with the improvements for a better farming future on the grounds that they can stay in business to do so.



Trackmap unit, gps.



***Paddock fully cultivated and drilled down in Oats as a catchment crop.
Teaching the next generation how to bucket test irrigation.***

3. REDUCING THE NUTRIENT LOSSES FROM MY FARM

- 3.1. To make reductions for GMP and beyond, the farms will need to continue to modernise infrastructure and capital cost across all 7 farms.
- 3.2. If we look at Hillcrest in more detail to meet GMP, 15% reductions by 2030 it will have to add two more centre pivots to the farm at an estimated quoted price of:

293m FC pivot, \$ 105,500+ gst

338m PC pivot , \$123,000+gst

Power and mainline connection \$35,000+gst

Corner Sprinklers \$5000

Total : \$268,500 +gst (54.1 ha Irrigated)



- 3.3. Currently we have already invested in the two pivots irrigating 80 ha. This is the layout of the future pivots needed and what we are working towards.
- 3.4. We will also need to upgrade the effluent pond at a cost of \$289000+gst, and upgrade the effluent system \$85000+gst.
- 3.5. To meet GMP and the first stage of reductions by 2030 we will need to invest over 3 million \$ into Hillcrest. This leaves us with a lot of uncertainty. The banks will and are already taking these provisions in PC7 into consideration with any debt finance. Therefore, the next step for Hillcrest would be de-intensifying which when you look at our FEP Audit we are already running at a low stocking rate for the wellbeing of our animals and going any lower will have significant effect on profitability to service debt. The ongoing effect of PC7 will bring socio-economic challenge; including laying off staff that are a part of our family, seeking more off farm income to help support holding onto the land for its historical mana, and not having finance to invest in other environmental initiatives to help reach the environmental outcomes sought.

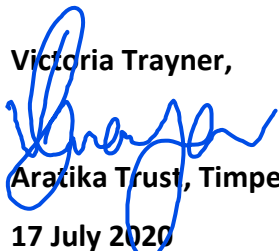
This is only one example of one of the properties under Aratika trust.

- 3.6. Currently all the farms sit in different nitrate priority areas within PC7. In fact, the Aratika Trust home farm is situated within purple, blue and green sub-areas

which makes reductions in nitrogen loss beyond 2040 very difficult to manage for one property. The Timperley family and I support NGFT in the removal of the five nitrate priority sub-areas. I am passionate about having farmers in the catchment working together in their communities to problem solve, and to target and understand the issues accordingly to the environment.

I would like to see a unified zone, working along side each other seeking the required PC7 outcomes. A catchment wide approach also offers the scope to adopt Targeted Stream Argumentation and Managed Aquifer Recharge alongside catchment wide monitoring programme which has been described in more detail in Sam Spencer-bowls evidence.

- 3.7. The farmer led partnership approach suggested by the NGFT allows informed spatial tailoring of solutions and farmers to focus on where they can make the biggest difference to water quality. Given the position of NGFT and all the positivity and energy of innovated strategies, problem solving solutions amongst NGFT farmer and agri-business members I feel extremely passionate and see the farmer led approach is crucial, otherwise I don't really see much of a future ahead for the sixth generation to have the choice of a career in agriculture in the Waimakariri District.
- 3.8. It is important for New Zealand to continue to be self-efficient with producing food for our domestic market and export market, to help maintain our economy and protect the future economic structure of New Zealand. As farmers we pride ourselves on producing a high-quality food with the best endeavours to limit our effect on the environmental footprint.
- 3.9. This generation will farm different to the ones in the past, but with respect to their mana, this generations and future generations deserve the right to have the choice to be caretakers of their land and are a critical part of the solution.

Victoria Trayner,

Aratika Trust, Timperley Family
17 July 2020